

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, lines 11-21, please amend the third paragraphs as follows:

A polymer-bonded granular adsorbent, absorbent, chemisorptive, or catalytic material and a method for producing molded pieces from it is known from DE 197 14 350 A1. A meltable polyethylene is intensely wetted with an oligocondensate in an appropriate mixing vessel, the fine-granular adsorbent, absorbent, chemisorptive, or catalytic material is added and the resulting mixture mixed intensely, then fed to a processing machine using a suitable conveying system and pressed into a molded piece inside a mold at temperatures in the range from 90° to 180° C, preferably 100° to 140° C, and pressures in the range of 0.0125 to 0.25 bar/cm², ~~preferably 0,0225 to 0,0625 bar/cm²~~ preferably 0.0225 to 0.0625 bar/cm², cooled in the mold and then removed from it. Using such molded pieces as filter elements for respiratory masks comprises a disadvantage in that their gastight fitting into inserts of respiratory masks or bonnets takes some process engineering effort. Furthermore, the mechanical stability of these molded pieces is limited along their edges.

Page 2, please amend the first paragraph as follows:

The method according to the invention for producing a respiratory filter in which a granular adsorbent, absorbent, chemisorptive, or catalytic material, particularly activated carbon, is intermixed with (a) meltable polymer(s) that may have been wetted to retain homogeneities, and the

resulting mixture is heated under pressure and pressed into a molded piece involves that said mixture is heated under pressure in a connecting part for a respirator or fan filter unit or a connecting part of an adapter for a respirator or fan filter unit and is thereby positively or non-positively pressed to it, and that the fit between said connecting part and the compacted mixture is gastight. Accordingly, the ~~old~~ mold for the apparatus of the invention is a connecting part for a respirator, a fan filter, or an adapter for these.

Page 3, please add the following paragraph between the first and second paragraphs:

The molded piece 2 may be made using a polymer(s). The connecting part 1 may be made from a polymer having a higher melting point than the polymer(s) of the molded piece 2. The connecting part 1 might be made from another material, such as cardboard or metal.

Page 3, please amend the second and third paragraphs (as originally filed) as follows:

The connecting part 1 comprises fasteners 3 along its periphery for a detachable gastight connection to an adapter 4 for connecting a respirator or fan filter unit 6. The figure depicts this connection as a snap-in connection. It may also be designed as another conventional connection such as threaded, quarter-turn fastener, etc.

Instead of a connection to the adapter 4, a respirator or fan filter unit may also be connected using a direct detachable gastight connection

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